2007-04797/

From the Minister

I am pleased to present the Nova Scotia Provincial Library/Nova Scotia Public Libraries 2004-05 Annual Report.

Public libraries make a difference to Nova Scotians in all parts of the province. The new public library in Windsor is but an example of the value that communities place on public library service. Again this year, borrowings were up.

Public libraries in this province have a tradition of looking forward. I was very happy to hear about the Public Libraries of the Future conference, and I am confident that public libraries will continue to make our communities better places to live for many years to come.

I would like to congratulate Elizabeth Armstrong on her retirement from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library after more than 25 years of service. Nova Scotians have benefited greatly from her commitment to public library service in this province.

I am pleased to welcome Jennifer Evans as Provincial Librarian and I look forward to working with her in the future.

Jamie Muir

Jamie Muir
Minister of Education

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

The highlight of the year was the opening of the Windsor Regional Library, which opened its doors to the public on November 18th. The official opening was held on November 27th with a capacity crowd in attendance. By the end of March the circulation in the branch increased by over 24 per cent from the previous year. The Friends of the Windsor Regional Library were the driving force behind the development, fundraising, and planning.

The region hosted the Library Boards Association of NS conference April 16 -18 at the Old Orchard Inn. The event was a success and coincided with Western Nova Scotia's CAP Conference.

A new delivery van was purchased and four branch libraries (Annapolis Royal, Lawrencetown, Middleton, and Windsor) extended their open hours thanks to additional funding received this fiscal year.

Programming in the region received funding from various sources: the Community Access Program for one-on-one computer tutorials; Coca Cola Canada for a "share the stories Reading Circle;" the IWK Health Centre for a "Read-To-Me!" program, and the Canadian Federation of University Women. Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) also provided funding through Summer Career Placements that provided staffing for programming through the summer months.

The Adopt a Library's official launch took place on June 18th in the Kentville Library.

Cape Breton Regional Library

The Main-a-Dieu Library was relocated to a much larger and brighter location in the Coastal Discovery Centre in April.

Programs for both children and adults continue to be very popular throughout the region. Of special note is the St. John Ambulance Dog Therapy READ (Reading Education Assistance Dog) Program, which was introduced at the North Sydney and Sydney Libraries. This unique program encourages and helps children to develop their reading skills. The READ program has received national media attention.

The funding for the programs offered through the Gates Learning Centre was not renewed this year. The services of the Centre were in high demand and the success stories over the past five years have been many. Unfortunately, the library has not been able to secure funding for the service from an alternate source.

Library Card Month was held in October. During this time staff members visited schools, day cares, and businesses throughout the region to raise awareness of library services. The membership goal of 2,004 new or re-registered borrowers for the month was exceeded with a total of 2,297 new or re-registered users.

Colchester–East Hants Public Library

This past year saw a new branch, a new look, the same great service, and more ~

On April 1st, the 3 1/2-year-old community library in Mount Uniacke was welcomed into the system.

For the first time, the popular summer and winter reading programs were expanded to include adults, invited to be good role models by being seen reading. Participants enjoyed submitting short reviews of the books they read and entering their names for weekly draws. The reviews were posted around the reading rooms and generated some interesting discussions.

In September, the Honourable Joseph Volpe visited the Truro Library to announce grants to Literacy Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Dalhousie University, and the library. Thanks to the $120,000 grant through the National Literacy Secretariat, the library's two-year family literacy project will continue for another two years. The focus will be on creating a website, a database, and a strategic plan, all to advance family literacy programs in Nova Scotia. The Department of Education is an active partner in the project.

Public Library Week saw the library welcome 94 delegates to the annual conference of the Nova Scotia Library Association at the Debert Hospitality Centre (October 22-24).

around the province

Left to right:

Kids can't wait to get "Locked in @the library" for CRL's annual slumber party.

Award-winning author, Donna Morrissey, signs a book for patron Evelyn O'Leary (front) at the St. Peter's Libr@ry Link site following a reading funded by the Canada Council for the Arts.

Halifax Explosion survivors attend the official re-opening of Halifax North Memorial Public Library.

Cumberland Regional Library

All Cumberland Regional Libraries (CRL) branches took a stronger role in the community during the past year. It was the most successful year ever for the Summer Reading Club with a 32 per cent increase in participation over last summer.

Partnerships were strengthened with the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association (CREDA), Maggie's Place Family Resource Centre, YMCA, and community groups such as the CAN-U adult literacy group. Joint programs with local schools also increased the library's visibility in the community.

Continued implementation of the strategic plan saw new programs offered such as "Babes in Bookland," a program for babies and toddlers under age three and their parents. A Teen Advisory Board was created that provided advice in the selection of DVDs, audiobooks on CD, and graphic novels.

Grants from Coca-Cola's "share the stories" program were used to develop a new collection of French books for kids, and TD Bank's Friends of the Environment grant was used to purchase environmental books and A/V materials for all ages.

All branches have wireless hotspots making libraries one of the few places in Cumberland County to offer this service. Improvements were made to the library webpage, including an online Summer Reading Club component, new book lists, subject guides, and a business room linked to Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Eastern Counties Regional Library

Amazing Stories @ your library was the theme chosen for a special advertising space offered on the arena boards at the new Port Hawksbury Civic Centre and it certainly helps sum up this past year. Increased public and corporate support for the 3rd fall Share a Book campaign helped to raise $16,500 for the collections budget. That's $6,000 over last year. Demand for library services remains strong with a 4.1 per cent increase in materials lent and a 13 per cent increase in requests placed. The number of people attending programs was up approximately 45 per cent due to improved promotions with Canada Council, TD Bank Summer Reading Club, local authors, literacy groups, and family resource centres.

Eastern Counties Regional Libraries (ECRL) organized a regional Library Book Rate mail-in campaign to our local Members of Parliament regarding the importance of this longstanding provision for reduced library mailing costs. The campaign received significant provincial and local media coverage.

Computer equipment for both staff and the public was improved through a Department of Education grant and the support of the NS C@P program, in which the library remains active. A new English and French interface for our website was also unveiled in fall 2004.

Halifax Public Libraries

Halifax Public Libraries had an impressive year, with service upgrades, makeovers, and award recognition. The library continues to provide valuable learning resources for the entire community.

In 2004/05, The Needs Assessment and Master Facilities Plan Final Report was presented to Halifax Regional Municipal (HRM) Council. The report is aligned with the HRM Regional Plan and Capital District Plan and defines library facility needs over the next 10 years.

Halifax Public Libraries' computer reservation system, a new and convenient service for the public, allows users to go online to reserve a public-use computer. Using Book a Computer, customers may locate and book, at any branch of the library, a computer that best fits their needs. In addition to this online booking option is the Book a Computer telephone-booking service. This is available from any touch-tone telephone. Customer response to the service has been excellent.

Also new this year is Kids' Search, a new search software especially designed for children and available through the library's catalogue. Both the Adult and Kids' Search continue to offer access to all 1,256,884 items in the library's collection. And, as always, the catalogue gives customers the choice of where they'd like an item sent.

Starting in May 2004, Alderney Gate service hours were expanded to include Mondays.

For the first time in its 40-year history, Halifax North Branch received a much needed facelift. HRM Capital District also initiated construction for the exterior of the library, making the outside area more accessible and comfortable for community usage. As Halifax North Library is actually a memorial for the victims of the Halifax Explosion, it was only fitting that the branch reopen on December 6th, the day of remembrance for the Explosion. A website was developed to highlight the memorial aspect of the building and to provide access to photographs and relevant historical documents.

Initiatives for 2005/06 include:

- designating a site for the Central Library through the Queen Street Master Plan and developing a Capital Fundraising Campaign and resourcing plan for the Central Library
- negotiating a new Collective Agreement with Nova Scotia Union of Public Employees (NSUPE) Local 14
- improving Family Literacy Services with the support of a bequest from the estate of Althena Colpitts
- improving services to marginalised communities with the Working Together Project, a national, federally funded project
- piloting wireless access at four branches while also providing two portable computer labs
- revising the Library's website (e-branch)

around the province

Left to right:

Mark Oakley poses with one of his creations at a cartoon drawing workshop at the New Glasgow Library during March break activities in 2005. Oakley is the creator, artist, and self-publisher of the popular graphic novel series, ***Thieves and Kings****.*

Library staff (l-r) Sandra Whitman, Lynn Robart, and Cate Bird prepare for the South Shore Regional Library's annual Adopt-A-Book Campaign.

Western Counties Regional Library's Natasha LeBlanc and Veronica Hubbard prepare books and gift baskets for Adopt-a-Book, the library's major fundraising campaign in 2004.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

The Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board has completed another year of growth and innovative service ventures.

Construction was completed on the new Westville Library and Innovation Centre. This new facility will provide comprehensive library and technology services to the town and the southwestern area of Pictou County.

Computer technology was replaced in all branches and headquarters in preparation for the new automated system, Sirsi Unicorn, that will be introduced in fall of 2005. A new web server was purchased and installed through grants from the Premier's Innovation Council, allowing for improved website reliability and introduction of the Elluminate online meeting program.

The board hosted Sheldon Currie as the first Writer in Residence.

An Assistive Technology Workshop was held in November to over thirty participants from across Nova Scotia.

Premier John Hamm launched the new Adopt-A-Library program poster, while recognizing the value of literacy as a crime prevention tool.

The River John Virtual Village (www.riverjohn.com) was completed. In a partnership with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs, the board is now working with Scotsburn and Alma to Mt. Thom. Work also progressed on two more municipal websites for Stellarton and Westville.

A Friends of the Antigonish Library (FOAL) group was created in 2005. The group has identified the need for a new Antigonish facility as a long-term project.

South Shore Regional Library

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL) made significant progress toward its major goal of a new branch to serve Bridgewater and area. The new library was included in plans for a multi-purpose facility and in a subsequent needs assessment prepared for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and the Town of Bridgewater. Mobile Branch 2 was refurbished in order to extend its lifetime and give SSRL time to plan a fundraising campaign for a new mobile branch.

Programming and technical infrastructure have been enhanced and public awareness has increased through fundraising and community partnerships such as the unique Be Well Connected information and referral line. The Passion Series at the Library, the Seniors Library Café, Upstairs at the Library, and a Children's Story and Activity series are among our successes.

The Friends of the SSRL are proving staunch advocates in lobbying and fundraising efforts. The group met the challenge of a donor foundation and thereby doubled a contribution to the cost of refurbishing Mobile Branch 2. The Friends will be very involved in awareness building and fundraising for the new Bridgewater and area library.

The annual Adopt-A-Book campaign and twice-a-year book sales continued to provide a major boost to SSRL's materials budget.

Western Counties Regional Library

During the 2004-2005, the Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL) had two major campaigns in its public relations strategy: Library Card Month and the Summer Reading Program. It also had a major fundraising campaign, Adopt-a-Book.

The WCRL registered 754 new members during its fifth annual Library Card Month in October, 50 per cent beyond its goal of 500 new members. Publicity for the special event received a significant boost through a special newspaper insert prepared and distributed in partnership with Transcontinental Media, publishers of the community newspapers serving Digby, Yarmouth, and Shelburne counties.

The Summer Reading Program enjoyed its first year partnership with TD Bank while maintaining local sponsorship through McDonald's Restaurants.

Adopt-a-Book surpassed expectations in fundraising, exceeding its target by 17 per cent with 1,171 books being adopted during the three-month campaign. The fundraiser was aided by the library's ongoing partnership with regional radio station CJLS, and other media outlets.

WCRL Director Trudy Amirault was elected president of the Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) in October.

Virginia Stoddard, a former deputy director at WCRL, was honoured with the NSLA Award of Merit for distinguished service. The award followed her retirement on May 28, 2004 after 34 years of service.

Public Libraries of the Future

Fifty-three people braved a January snowstorm to participate in Public Libraries of the Future at the Holiday Inn Select in Halifax, January 20-21, 2005. Hosted by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, the conference was the first step in the development of a vision of what public library service will look like by 2020. The keynote speaker was Stephen Abram, President of the Canadian Library Association (CLA) and Vice-President, Innovation, Sirsi Corporation.

Speakers included Madeleine Lefebvre, University Librarian, Saint Mary's University; Deborah Jacobs, City Librarian, The Seattle Public Library; Ken Roberts, Chief Librarian, Hamilton Public Library; David Chaundy, Senior Economist, Atlantic Provinces Economic Council; and Wendy Newman, Librarian in Residence at the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto.

The main themes of the discussion were the public library as a community place, the reinvention of public library staff, the integration of public libraries in their communities, the impact of changing demographics, and the opportunities offered by rapidly changing technologies.

Public library staff and trustees from all four Atlantic Provinces, as well as representatives from university, college, and special libraries, and municipal government spent a productive and energized day looking into the future of public library service.

Provincial librarian retires

Provincial Librarian Elizabeth Armstrong retired at the end of March 2005 after more than 25 years at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. She was appointed Provincial Librarian in March 2002, after acting in the position since 1999. Betsy's career spanned a period of great change in libraries and library service. She recognized early on the key role of technology in bringing quality library service to all Nova Scotians and was instrumental in the implementation of automated library systems in the regional public libraries across the province. She played a key role in the development of public library standards for the province and participated on four Regional Public Library Funding Review Committees, chairing the most recent. Throughout her career Betsy enjoyed the respect of her staff at Kempt Road, of her colleagues in the Department of Education, and of the greater library community.

Above

Presentation of the Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership to Michael Colborne (Left to right: Norman Horrocks, Erica Smith, NSLA President, Michael Colborne, Trudy Amirault, NSLA Vice-President, at the NSLA conference, Debert, October 2004.

Nova Scotia Provincial Library accomplishments 2004-05

> Organized and hosted Public Libraries of the Future, a conference featuring library leaders from across North America.

> Library board orientation package developed in partnership with the Library Boards Association of NS.

> Coordinated fourth annual Nova Scotia Public Library Week with the theme: Check Us Out.

> Provided access for regional library staff to a variety of professional development audio conferences from the Education Institute.

> Provided Sirsi training to regional public libraries in the new Unicorn Library Management system.

> Completed first test database phase in the migration to the Unicorn library system.

> Chaired the first Canadian Sirsi User Group Annual Program & Meeting held during the Canadian Library Association Annual Conference.

> Represented the NcompasS Consortium of Nova Scotia libraries at the Sirsi User's Superconference.

> Supplied library card brochures to the Read to Me program.

> Represented public libraries at a variety of events, including Word on the Street, the 50+ Expo, and the annual conference of the Learning Disabilities Association of NS.

> 11,137 children participated in the Summer Reading Program.

> Developed a partnership with Breast Cancer Action NS, which included donations of materials to libraries, and a series of promotional events around the province highlighting the value of public libraries as places to go for consumer health information.

> Sponsored attendance by regional library staff at the annual conference of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia Public Libraries Statistics

ANNUAL USE

	OPEN HOURS	IN-PERSON VISITS	ON-LINE VISITS	TOTAL LIBRARY VISITS	ON-LINE VISITS AS % OF TOTAL	CIRCULATION	IN-LIBRARY USE	TOTAL MATERIALS USE
Annapolis Valley	14,924	226,557	213,322	439,879	48.5%	573,720	40,539	623,781
Cape Breton	24,362	373,412	N/A	373,412	N/A	487,605	124,852	625,321
Colchester-E. Hants	7,496	183,879	73,333	257,212	28.5%	284,945	76,839	371,073
Cumberland	10,472	131,831	118,014	249,845	47.2%	153,379	35,572	193,861
Eastern Counties	9,823	107,624	121,054	228,678	52.9%	157,685	33,748	200,067
Halifax	35,276	2,391,849	755,314	3,147,163	24.0%	4,470,926	1,369,056	5,901,665
Pictou-Antigonish	12,500	215,000	399,427	614,427	65.0%	317,814	100,000	426,060
South Shore	7,765	109,665	N/A	109,665	N/A	221,078	43,197	265,600
Western Counties	12,925	168,636	130,503	299,139	43.6%	266,644	242,632	518,214
Totals	**135,543**	**3,908,453**	**1,810,967**	**5,719,430**	**31.7%**	**6,933,796**	**2,066,435**	**9,125,642**

	USE PER CAPITA	USE PER OPEN HOUR	HOLDS PLACED	IN-PERSON PROGRAMS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	SRP* PARTICIPANTS
Annapolis Valley	6	38.4	89,166	1,737	10,011	648
Cape Breton	5.1	25.6	35,972	605	11,595	1,101
Colchester-E. Hants	5.0	49.5	24,701	728	13,054	708
Cumberland	5.7	18.4	23,799	564	8,683	569
Eastern Counties	4.8	20.3	28,815	255	3,995	350
Halifax	16.4	137.4	1,050,314	3,349	94,399	5,414
Pictou-Antigonish	6.1	34.0	31,500	521	6,700	1,675
South Shore	4.3	34.2	28,110	166	3,421	452
Western Counties	7.9	37.0	34,782	1,214	16,992	1,213
Totals	**9.8**	**55.3**	**1,347,159**	**9,139**	**168,850**	**12,130**

*Summer Reading Program

	MEMBERSHIP					SERVICE POINTS			GOVERNANCE		PERSONNEL	
	POPULATION (2001 CENSUS)	IN-PERSON REGISTRATIONS	ON-LINE REGISTRATIONS	REGISTERED MEMBERS	REGISTERED MEMBERS AS % OF POP	BRANCH LIBRARIES	MOBILE LIBRARIES	OTHER SITES	MEMBER COUNCILS	TRUSTEES	TOTAL STAFF (FTE)	PERSONNEL EXPENDITURE AS % OF TOTAL
Annapolis Valley	103,836	3,742	279	19,452	18.7%	11	2	2	11	15	40.2	70.0%
Cape Breton	121,631	4,158	N/A	27,527	22.6%	13	2	1	2	9	51.2	73.3%
Colchester-E. Hants	74,077	2,505	105	13,377	18.0%	5	0	5	4	9	32.1	73.7%
Cumberland	33,634	1,363	47	6,988	20.7%	7	0	1	5	9	19.0	65.7%
Eastern Counties	41,830	1,201	110	7,378	17.6%	7	0	12	7	9	20.6	66.7%
Halifax	359,183	21,960	1,424	185,356	51.6%	14	1	3	1	11	272.0	67.5%
Pictou-Antigonish	69,735	1,625	750	15,091	21.6%	7	0	7	8	10	34.0	71.9%
South Shore	61,815	1,878	168	9,892	16.0%	3	2	1	6	13	24.4	67.5%
Western Counties	65,135	3,780	170	19,101	29.3%	10	0	2	11	16	31.4	71.1%
Totals	**930,876**	**42,215**	**3,053**	**304,162**	**32.7%**	**77**	**7**	**34**	**55**	**101**	**524.9**	**68.6%**

	FUNDING				EXPENDITURES			
	PROVINCIAL	MUNICIPAL	OTHER	TOTAL INCOME	MATERIALS	PERSONNEL	OTHER	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
Annapolis Valley	$1,374,300	$503,301	$65,100	$1,942,701	$202,317	$1,434,784	$413,323	$2,050,424
Cape Breton	1,609,900	589,500	310,057	2,509,457	278,504	1,840,002	390,951	2,509,457
Colchester-E. Hants	1,012,722	358,999	168,268	1,539,989	174,420	1,065,244	300,325	1,539,989
Cumberland	479,833	163,000	71,542	714,375	78,765	476,968	158,642	714,375
Eastern Counties	656,090	202,701	122,190	980,981	115,136	653,884	211,961	980,981
Halifax	3,527,200	12,247,543	628,334	16,403,077	1,764,815	11,072,384	3,565,878	16,403,077
Pictou-Antigonish	923,001	359,200	176,679	1,458,880	145,871	1,055,248	266,552	1,467,671
South Shore	818,200	308,601	167,710	1,294,511	73,119	873,544	347,847	1,294,510
Western Counties	907,299	315,700	209,928	1,432,927	183,846	1,019,428	229,653	1,432,927
Totals	**$11,308,545**	**$15,048,545**	**$1,919,808**	**$28,276,898**	**$3,016,793**	**$19,491,486**	**$5,885,132**	**$28,393,411**

NOVA SCOTIA
Education

2004 - 05 Nova Scotia Provincial Library / Nova Scotia Public Libraries Annual Report

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY
PO Box 640, 26 Bay Road
Bridgetown NS
B0S 1C0
Tel: 902.665.2995
Fax: 902.665.4899
avradmin@nsar.library.ns.ca
Website: valleylibrary.ca
Regional Librarian: David Witherly

CAPE BRETON REGIONAL LIBRARY
50 Falmouth Street, Sydney NS
B1P 6X9
Tel: 902.562.3279
Fax: 902.564.0765
inssc@nssc.library.ns.ca
Website: cbrl.ca
Regional Librarian: Faye MacDougall

COLCHESTER-EAST HANTS PUBLIC LIBRARY
754 Prince Street, Truro NS
B2N 1G9
Tel: 902.895.4183
Fax: 902.895.7149
anstc@nstc.library.ns.ca
Website: cehlibrary.ednet.ns.ca
Library Director: Janet Pelley

CUMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
PO Box 220, Amherst NS
B4H 3Z2
Tel: 902.667.2135
Fax: 902.667.1360
crl@nsamc.library.ns.ca
Website: crl.library.ns.ca
Chief Librarian: Frances Newman

EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY
PO Bag 2500, 390 Murray Street,
Mulgrave NS
B0E 2G0
Tel: 902.747.2597
Fax: 902.747.2500
info@nsme.library.ns.ca
Website: ecrl.library.ns.ca
Chief Librarian: David Cumby

HALIFAX PUBLIC LIBRARIES
60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth NS
B2Y 4P8
Tel: 902.490.5744
Fax: 902.490.5762
comments@halifaxpubliclibraries.ca
Website: halifaxpubliclibraries.ca
Chief Executive Officer: Judith Hare

PICTOU-ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY
PO Box 276, New Glasgow NS
B2H 5E3
Tel: 902.755.6031
Fax: 902.755.6775
info@parl.ns.ca
Website: parl.ns.ca
Chief Librarian: Eric Stackhouse

SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL LIBRARY
PO Box 34, Bridgewater NS
B4V 2W6
Tel: 902.543.2548
Fax: 902.543.8191
info@ssrlibrary.ca
Website: ssrlibrary.ca
Chief Librarian: Janet Clark

WESTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY
405 Main Street, Yarmouth NS
B5A 1G3
Tel: 902.742.2486
Fax: 902.742.6920
ansy@nsy.library.ns.ca
Website: westerncounties.ca
Regional Library Director: Trudy Amirault

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Tel: 902.424.2457
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Website: www.library.ns.ca
Provincial Librarian: Jennifer Evans